



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 18, 2009

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## USDA TO LOOK AT NATIONAL MILK PRODUCTION

DENVER, COLORADO – For the past several years large dairy operations have accounted for a steadily increasing percentage of total milk production in the United States. In January, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service will reach out to the nation's milk producers for its first Milk Production survey of 2010 to see if this trend continues.

"The information we gather provides a snapshot of the milk production industry in Colorado and the nation, which is why it is very important for all selected producers to participate," said Bill Meyer, director of Colorado Field Office.

The Milk Production survey is a quarterly survey, which gathers information from 160 producers in Colorado. NASS asks producers to provide the number of milk cows in the herd, number of cows milked and total milk production. In April and October, information collected includes milk used on the farm for food or drink and the amount fed to calves.

The monthly Milk Production report is relied upon by the dairy industry to project future supplies of milk and milk products. By participating in the survey, milk producers can ensure that the most accurate and timely data is readily available, which ensures sound decision-making.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the confidentiality of all responses, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified.

Survey results will be published monthly in the *Milk Production* report and the *Milk Production Annual Summary*, which will be released in February, 2011. These and all NASS reports are available online at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov). For more information please contact Colorado Field Office at (800) 392-3202

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